PRICE FIVE CENTS.

### CRITICAL BATTLE NEAR.

GEN. BULLER EXPECTED TO MOVE SOON IN FORCE.

Growing Belief That Ladysmith Cannot Hold Out Much Longer-Much Depends on Gen. French's Operations at Colesberg-Battle Probably On Now-Defeat Would Endanger British Base at De Aar. Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, Jan. 6.-The week's news from the front has mainly dealt with the successes of Col. Pilcher at Sunnyside and Gen. French around Colesberg. These were at first hailed as important victories, but are now seen in a truer light. Col. Pilcher's opponents were entirely Colonial rebels, and, though by the temporary occupation of Douglas, he reaped the fruits of his victory, the whole campaign was of no great importance, as the possession of the triangle of territory between the railway and the Riet and Orange rivers depends ultimately on the issue of decisive fighting between the British army and the forces of the Republics. not on local skirmishes. Still, the engagement was of peculiar interest as demonstrating the excellence of the Colonial troops. Moreover, Gen. Methuen's communications now appear to be well organized and guarded. His position

does not now cause any special anxiety. A good deal depends on the result of Gen. French's struggle with the Colesberg commandos. It was at first reported that he had taken Colesherg, but he did not have sufficient force to accomplish this. He is probably making an attempt to-day with the help of reenforcements from De Aar. A Boer defeat would render the line from Cape Town to the Orange River quite safe, while a Boer victory would ertainly endanger Naauw Poort and probably De Aar.

The main interest is still in the situation at Ladysmith and Frere. Though messages from the former continue to say that all is well, they admit that the bombardment is more effective since Christmas, and that dysentery and enteric fever are increasing. Thus there is a distinct impression gaining ground that Gen. White's position is critical, and, according to one military critic's estimate. "may at any moment become desperate.

It is now regarded as certain that Gen. Buller will attack the Boers in full force soon, and it is impossible to exaggerate the importance of the result. It may fairly be said that his success and the relief of Ladysmith would decide the issue of the war, though the fighting might continue for months thereafter. A second failure would entail exertions on the part of the British Government compared to which even the present display of energy would be small. It is difficult to estimate by any method the chances of the coming engagement. Since Dec. 15, when Gen. Buller was repulsed at Colenso with heavy loss of men and guns, the Boer army has gained strength by taking a new position to the west, by three weeks of busy fortification and by the moral effect of the last victory. Gen. Buller, on the other hand, is probably better informed now as to the Boers' position, has been reenforced by a majority of Gen. Warren's division, and has sixty-six guns and improved means of transport. Still, unless he waits a considerable time. his cavalry, so far as is known here, will not ex-

ceed 4,000, which is not considered enough. It is not probable that the action will be confined to one battle. The Boers' position covers twenty miles, and a series of engagements will probably be necessary. The first move will undoubtedly be against Hlangwane Hill in order to clear the right flank and the south bank of the Tugela, and also against Springfield on the British left. If these are occupied Gen. Buller able to cover further manœuvring against selected spots in the enemy's intrenchments. His operations, unless he receives a serious check at the outset, will possibly cover a week

of fighting. There is no abatement in the enthusiasm of the volunteers, who include men prominent in every line, as for example. Dr. A. Conan Doyle and Golfer John Ball, Jr. But public interest is now really aroused regarding the responsibility of the Government and War Office for the present humiliating position of the country. The Times says: "Excuses and explanations of the old kind will no longer pass. Our military system has been tried and found wanting. The fine qualities exhibited by the troops only make more prominent the defects and blunders which have neutralized them. The system has broken down and it will be our business, when the war is done, to investigate without respect to persons."

All attackers seem to fight shy of Colonial Secretary Chamberlain; and the Marquis of Landsdowne, War Secretary, and Lord Wolseley. Commander-in-chief of the Army, are chiefly blamed. The fight is between the civil and military elements of the Cabinet. Neither has a good defence. In behalf of the Marquis of Landadowne, Lord Ernest Hamilton writes: "Supposing the shortcomings of the War Office are not due to neglect of military counsels. but to the adoption of them contrary to the farseeing judgment of the civil side." This shifts the blame to Lord Wolseley but really condemns the War Secretary who has no business to assent to decisions, of the soundness of which he is not convinced. Lord Wolseley's friends declare that he has been overruled. If overruled on a vital point his resignation, it is argued, is the only proper step. Otherwise he merely stuitifies himself as a military adviser of the cabinet who is unable to convince them that he knows his own business.

### BOERS ATTACKING LADYSMITH.

Gen. White Reports a Considerable Force of the Enemy Repulsed.

LONDON, Jan. 6. - The War Office has received the following from Gen. Buller: "Following received from White at Ladysmith: 'Jan. 6. Enemy attacked Cæsar's Camp at 2:45 this morning in considerable force. The enemy was everywhere repulsed. The fighting continues."

The War Office has issued an additional list of casualties in Gen. Gatacre's fight at Stormberg on Dec. 1. It includes 3 killed, 33 wounded and 14 prisoners.

### Salisbury's Son Ill at Mafeking.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUS LONDON, Jan 6 -It is stated that Lord Edward Cecil, a son of the Marquis of Salisbury. is ill of a fever in the hospital at Mafeking. A report from Boer sources about a week ago stated that he had been wounded.

### Relief Fund Reaches \$2,500,000.

Special table Despatch to THE SUN. LONDON, Jan. 6 - The Mansion House fund for the relief of refugees from the Transvaal has reached £500,000.

Improved and Double Daily Train Service Between New York and Atlantic City via the Pennsylva in Railroad.

via the Pennsylva- ia Railroad.

Commencing January 15th, the Pennsylvania Railroad Contrany will manuscrate a double italiy service between New York and Atlantic City on week days on the following schedule. Leave New York, 23d st., 90:5 A.M., 240 P. M. Leave New York, Desbr sees Adantic City, 114 P. M., 60:8 P. M. Peturning, leave Atlantic City, 10:0 A.M., 2:20 P. M., arrive leave Atlantic City, 10:0 A.M., 2:20 P. M., Arrive New York, 12:23 P. M., 5:33 P. M. Both of these t aims will be entirped with a andard Pennsylvania Railroad Coa h a and fullian Bitter Parlor Cars. This is not only the best equipped out he most york and Atlantic City and it adds greatly to the facilities of travel to that most popular resort.—Adv.

RUSSIAN OFFICERS WITH THE BOLES. | MORE SEIZURES EXPECTED. German Doctor Says They Are Becelving \$75.000 a Year.

Special able he paich to THE SUN. CAPE Town, Jan. 6.- A German doctor who was in the Boer lines during the battle of Magersiontein has arrived nere. He says that Russian officers are advising the Boers. They receive a salary of £15,000 a year, and a bonus of £250,000 has been promised to them if the Re-

publics are successful. He says the Boers have three tiers of trenches connected by communicating trenches. The burghers move their big guns

from trench to trench under the protection of the communicating trenches. The Boers state that their losses at Magersfontein were 166 killed and wounded and at Colenso 11 killed and 16 wounded.

A newspaper printed here, which is regarded as the Dutch organ, publishes a report that Gen. Methuen is building a railway around the Boer position at Magersfontein and that materials for its extension are being forwarded. A destatch to the Argus from Delagoa Bay states that fifty British subjects at Pretoria and Johannesburg have received passports to leave the country. Seven British subjects holding permits have arrived at Zeerust, north of Mafeking. No reason is given for this.

Three Boer prisoners of war escaped from the prison ship Manila at Simon's Bay last night.

#### FRENCH SHELLING COLESBERG. No Confirmation of the Report That He Has

Entered the Town. Special Cable Despatch . to THE SUN LONDON, Jan. 7 .- The report of Gen. French's occupation of Colesberg has not yet been confirmed. The only positive report is that he was still vigorously shelling the place yester-

day morning. CAPE TOWN, Jan, 8 .- A despatch to the Cape Times from Naauw Poort, dated yesterday.

says: "There is an unconfirmed report that Gen. French has entered Colesberg.

n an interview to-day the Boer prisoners en in the Rensburg fight stated that they had surrendered not because they were a'raid. but because their position was hopeless. They were being shelled from three positions and Maxims commanded their retreat. They say | Thinks the Latter Will Seek a Quarrel the artillery fire was terrible, the shells apparently coming from all directions. All the horses were killed and they had no chance They ascribed their defeat to escape. to bad generalship and delay in bringing up the guns.

"The prisoners expressed their admiration for the bravery of the British troops. They regret their imprisonment, but welcome the rest after the hard time. All say they are anxious for peace. Some of them wept bitterly when speaking of their wives and children They say they were surprised at the change of tactics on the part of the English. They expected a frontal attack."

## ANGLO-GERMAN OFFER REJECTED.

#### Portugal Informs the Two Nations That She Does Not Want a Loan,

Special Cable Deep to to THE SUN. LISBON, Jan. 6.-A semi-official communication to the newspapers says that Great Britain and Germany have informed Portugal of their readiness to become guarantors in the event of her contracting a loan for the purpose of reorganizing her finances. At the same time these powers assured Portugal that the basis of the Anglo-German agreement was the recognition of the integrity of the Portuguese colonial dominions.

The Portuguese Government then declared that it did not need any loan.

#### DENIAL FROM CARDINAL VAUGHAN. Pope Has Not Instructed Him to Offer to Mediate.

Special Cable Despatches to THE STN PARIS, Jan. 6.-The Journal states that the Pope has charged Cardinal Vaughan to offer to mediate between Great Britain and the Trans-

LONDON, Jan 6 .- Cardinal Vaughan authorizes a denial of the Paris story that the Pope has asked him to mediate between Great Britain and the Transvasi.

### MEAT SCARC : IV GLASGOW.

vice Reduces the Supply.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN GLASGOW, Jan. 6.-There is a great scarcity of fresh meat here owing to the disorganization of the transatlantic trade by the withdrawal of steamships for transport service. No cattle or sheep from the United States have reached Gla-gow in a week, and the butchers are unable to supply orders. There is a substantial rise in prices.

#### PENSIONS FOR NEEDY AUTHORS. The English Society of Authors to Care for the Aged Members.

Special Cable Desnatch to THE SUN. LONDON, Jan. 6 .- The Incorporated Society of Authors has started the formation of a pension fund for needy authors. The pensions are not to be smaller than £30 a year and not to exceed £100 except in certain cases of total inability to work. Candidates for pensions must be over sixty years old and have been members of the society for ten years. George Meredith. Walter Besant, Rudyard Kipling, Anthony Hope. Dr. A. Coman Doyle, Mrs. Humphry Ward and Jerome K. Jerome are supporting the scheme by subscriptions.

#### AMERICAN PRISONERS KILLED. Filipinos Force Them to Kneel in Front of a Firing Line at Aravat.

Specia Cable / espatch to THE BUN. Manila, Jan. 6.-Capt. Leonhauser and Lieuts. Enochs and Bates with two companies of the Twenty-fifth Infantry, while reconnoitring near Arayat yesterday, found and attacked the insurgent camps.

During the fight the rebels brought out five American prisoners from the jail-three men of the Ninth and two of the Twelfth Infantry, and forced them to kneel in front of a firing party. Two of the men were killed at the first volley. The others were boloed and re-ceived awful wounds. Two of them were res-

# LO DON SEES "THE MA KED BALL"

London, Jan. 6 .- "The Masked Ball" was produced at the Criterion Theatre to-night and was enthusiastically received, especially the first two acts. Miss Ellalaine Terriss's Suzanne was good throughout. The tipsy scene was well done, but the production failed to make a great impression.

#### Extra Duty on Venezuelan Imports. Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

CARACAS, Venezuela, Jan. 6 .- he Government has issued a decree levying an extra duty on flour, butter and rice.

Cruiser Prairie Leaves Havre. Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN. HAVRE, Jan, 6 .- The Uni ed States auxiliary cruiser Prair e saile I from here to-day.

New York and Florida Limited. Finest train in the world via P. R. R. and Southern Ry., resumes service Jan. 16, between New York and St. Augustine, composed e-clusively dining, library, compartment, observation and drawing-room sleeping cars, with Pullman drawing-room sleeping cars to Aiken and Augusts. Two o her daily fast trains with perfect dinin and sleeping car service. New York office 271 Broadway.—Ade.

Poland! Poland! Poland! Poland! Try it. Poland Water Depot, 8 Park Pl., M. I. Adv.

#### GREAT BRITAIN'S POSITION REGARD-ING CONTRABAND OF WAR.

Answer to Our Protest Against the Seizure of American Flour Will Be Handed to Ambassador Choate To-morrow-Search of Neutral Ships Bound to Neutral Ports.

Special Cable Despotches to THE SON. LONDON, Jan. 6.- A British note in reply to the United States Government's protest regarding the seizure of American flour on neutral ships bound for a neutral port will be handed to Ambassador Choate on Monday and will cover Great Britain's views on the whole question. It will probably be found that the actual disposal of the present cases will be left entirely to the prize courts, which are largely controlled by the evidence collected on the spot. It is universally believed here that the Foreign Office possesses information making it morally certain that the flour was intended

for the Boer forces. The sole argument regarding the German vessels is that search alone can settle the question of whether they are conveying supplies for the Boers, and if search does not reveal contraband of war, compensation will be readily paid. Whatever the decisions of the prize courts may be, appeals to the Privy Council will probably follow. The Government has already retained counsel and has also consulted prominent authorities on international law. Including Sir Richard Webster and Prof. Westlake, who are unanimous on the right of seizure of neutral ships between neutral ports. Consequently further seizures may be expected.

A Norwegian steamer is now under arrest at Durban, and the owners have retused to plead before the local prize courts, acting, it is stated, on orders from the Swedish Foreign Office, which is raising the matter diplomat-

BERLIN, Jan. 6 .- A despatch from Aden states that the port authorities have renounced further search of the German steamship General and that she will sail in a few days.

### FRANCE SUSPECTS ENGLAND.

With the Idea of Regaining Lost Prestige.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN. Panis, Jan. 6 .- The verdicts of the High Court of Justice in the cases of the conspira-tors against the Republic have greatly disappointed the enemies of the Government, who hoped that the Senate would be vindictive, whereas it has shown a proper contempt for the insignificant mob and dealt severely with the three greatest disturbers of the public order. The result is beneficial to the Government, which is apparently stronger than ever. There are rumors affoat that the Socialists will withdraw their support of the Cabinet unless Gen. Mercier is arrested. If this is assented to. it is impossible to say what will happen. It is extremely unlikely that Gen. De Gelliffet, Minister of War, will remain in a Government which reopens the Dreyfus case and his retirement would bring on a more than usuall

acute Cabinet crisis. The Premier and Ministers of War, Marine and Foreign Affairs, who form a special defence committee, are meeting frequently to discuss the strengthening of the French fleet. A rumor, which runs even in official circles, credits England with the intention of picking a quarrel with France with the idea of restoring her prestige by defeating the French fleet. This idea is widespread in France. An article in the Figaro declares: "Englishmen, wounded in self-love, will be impelled to seek an occasion for revenge by putting a strong fleet into action. If so, we, above all nations, are indi-

reverses on land.' The Matin states that Great Britain has purchased two batteries at the Loire Basin. The Creusot Works refused to supply England with

#### ary guns. THE GIRL'S HEART SOFTENED.

Once Sent Her Lover to Jail-Helped to Get Him Out and Off They Ran. RICHMOND, Va., Jan. 8 .- Charles Loth, aged 26, was charged recently with the abduction of Olivia B. Newton, less than fifteen years old. They went to the station ostensi-bly to take a train to elope. A rain came up and they got in a box car. She said that he detained her there all night and was so indignant the next day that she refused to have anything more to do with him. Her parents brought a charge of with him. Her parents brought a charge of abduction and the girl told her story to the jury and declared her determination to have no further dealings with her former lover.

Loth was sentenced to seven years in the pententiary. To-day he secured a new trial. The young woman was seated in the courtroon with her mother and lather while the hearing was going on and test fled, this time, in 'avor of Loth. They had evidently met in some way. While the young woman's parents were very much absorbed in the question of granting ball and release of Loth, Olivia stole out of the cour room to the street, where, it is thought, a cab was in waiting. As soon as the ball and releasewas granted. Loth hurried out of the court room and joined the young woman. They slipped away so quietly that they were not missed until both was wanted for some 'urrher formality. Their absence 'umfounded the parents of the girl and the officers of the court.

They caught a train for Weldon, and will, no doubt, return man and wife, and Loth, instead of serving time in the penies tiary, will only answer for contempt of court. The girl is beau-iful. She is relate to the family of the late Bishop John B. Newton of the Episcopal diocese of Virginia. abduction and the girl told her story to the

## CRANSION HOTEL PROPERTY SOLD

emy of Our Lady of Angels." HIGHLAND FALLS, N. Y., Jan. 6 - The famous Cranston Ho el property to-day passed into the hands of the Missionary Sisters of St. Francis of Peckskill, and the place will be converted into an academy. The transfer carries with it all the grounds, cottages, hotel proper, furniture, fixtures, &c. Although the purchase price was only \$40,000. The place will be known as "Lady Cliff," and the school is christened the "Academy of Our La ty of Angels." The academy will be opened directly after Easter. This hotel has been a famous resert for the greater part of the closing century. It was a popular resort for army officers. In 1801 twas visited by President Lincoln, and for several days he was the guest there of Gen. Scott. Gen. Sherman and other high army officials, who made it their headquarters. The Prince of Wales, Duke of Mariborough and many other notables have been guests at the hotel. into an academy. The transfer carries with it

### JUDGE, DENOUNCES JURYMEY.

Tells Them That They Failed to Keep Their Oaths for Friendship's Sake. COLUMBIA, S. C., Jan. 6 .- Judge O. W. Buchanan has scored the jury which remained hung three days in the case of Prof. Meares of the State Asylum for the dumb and blind charged with the downfall of a young girl. Judges here have never criticised juries Judges here have never criticised juries. Judge Buchanan said:
"I want to burn the idea into you, gentlemen, that justice has miscarried, because you did not have the manhood to carry out the law and the honesty to fuifil your obligation in this case. The law has been brought into disrepute because of feelings of kindness for a ne ghbor. I know, and every one else knows that you have not kepryour oath to decide this case according to the evidence."

Evening Here, Then Your Trip.

After January 6 boat for Lackswanna midnight ain to Scranton, Binghamton, Syra-use, Elmira, unfale, Chicago leaves Barylay Street 11:30 P. M.,

Poland! Poland! Poland! Poland! Pure, Sparkling, delicious. Telephone 118 Cort

SCANNELL MUST PAY THE PIPER. 89,666 Out of the Fire Commissioner's

Pocket for Col. Jussen's Back Salary. The order for a writ of mandamus directing John J. Scannell, F re Commissioner, to reinstate Col. Carl Jussen as his private secretary which was entered yesterday by Justice Nash of the Supreme Court, requires the Commissioner to pay, as an individual, arrears of salary amounting to \$11,666, as well as all costs of the proceeding by which Col. Jussen is reinstated. It is usual to require the city to pay back salaries in cases of unlawful removal where it appears that the officer causing the removal had good cause to believe he was acting within the

law and had the advice of council for his act. Commissioner Scannell removed Col. Jussen, who is a mar veteran, when the charter went into effect on Jan. 1. 1898. Jussen had been for several years in the employ of the department and was latterly private secretary to the old Board of Fire Commissioners. He maintained that under the new charter he was entitled to a post similar to the post he had held before, but Commissioner Scannell appointed Augustus T. Docharty his private secretary. The Commissioner testifled that the post of S-cretary was materially changed, because, with the large work devolving on the one Commissioner, which had before fallen on three Commissioners when the city was smaller, he was obliged to rely on Mr. Docharty for assistance beyond the work of a mere secretary, so that the post held by Docharty was not similar within the meaning of the charter to that held

It was Mr. Scannell who made Edward Croker Chief of Department without civil service examination., Mr. Croker didn't get the salary of Chief but will get it now, having passed the examination required by the law.

Commissioner Scanneli said last night that he hadn't hear ! of a decision against him personally in the Jussen case. The Corporation Counsel is de ending the suit.

"I have never been served with any papers in he case," the Fire Commissioner said. "I don't think there's much chance that that man will ever get back into the Fire Department, and I don't think there's much chance that he'll ever get the back pay from me or anybody else."

#### DROVE ALONG A RAILROAD TRACK. Train Pitched Nathan Kirk Into the Croton

River Fifty Feet Below. DANBURY, Conn., Jan. 6 -Nathan Kirk, who is 40 years old, is a farmer in Putnam county. N. Y. He left his home near Ludingtonville, a few miles below Brewsters, on Filitay evening. to drive to Danbury. The night was dark, but Kirk remembered that a telegraph line ran along the roadside and decided to follow the line of telegraph poles to his destination. He recalled afterward that the road seemed pretty rough at times, but he let the horse take its own sourse, so long as the telegraph poles remained in sight. Kirk does not know when he mistook the railroad for the wagon path. He recalls that he heard a locomot ve whistle close by and he pulled up to let the train pass. The roar of the engine sounded close tehind him and he discovered the headight bearing down upon him. The horse trightened at the noise maile by the train, took the bit in his teeth and dashed away with the farmer clinging to the reins but powerless to check the animal's speed. The bridge over the Croton River loomed up ahead of him, In a moment the horse plunged through the ties on the bridge and Kirk had barely time to roll out of the wagon to escape the train. In the darkness he fell headions off the side of the bridge and went down to the river. The bridge is nearly fifty feet above the rocks on the river bottom and the wonder is that the farmer was not dashed to death. The expanation is that he struck one of the sloping abutments half way down and the force of his fall was broken. Before he found himself struggling in the water the train on the bridge above him had knocked the wreck of the wagon into the river and had killed the horse outright.

Alfred Le May and George Juengst, Jr., who were passing along the road a short distance away heard Kirk cry for help as he fell and saw the train strike the horse and wagon. They went to the ail of the train hands and with the aid of the locomotive hea llight is covered Kirk sitting astride a rock in mid-stream. He had been swept down the river by the current and had managed to eatch hold of a tropetting stone. The men waded out to the farmer and carried him ashore. He was taken to the residence of Father Benedict. He was unhurt, save for a few scratches. attributed it to the frozen ruts and let the horse take its own course, so

#### save for a few scratches. JULIA MARLOWE DIVORCED.

Vermont Court Grants a Decree-May Re-

some Her Maiden Name. BUBLINGTON, Vt., Jan. 6.-In the Lamoille County Court Chief Justice Russell S. Taft today granted to Julia Mariowe Taber a bill of divorce from her husband, Robert S. Taber, the petitioner to have the right to resume her maiden name. The divorce is given on the ground of intolerable ernelty, and carries with it \$3,000 alimony, which was stipulated in the

The case was presented on the first day of the present term of court in a manner which attracted little attention. The new titioner was not present at the hearing. The evidence was taken by affidavit in New York. Mr. Taber did not oppose the petition. Miss Daley for several years Mrs. Taber's mail was present at the hearing and testified that she saw Taber take his wife by the throat and choke her while they were playing in Utah. Mrs. Taber's affidavit declared that Taber first showed signs of lealousy when they were preparing to appear together in New York in 1898, having become angry at newspaper notices more favorable to her than to him. The trouble increased between them until September, 1898, has said that he choked her severely, once in New York and once n Utah. Again, in Atlanta, Ga., he was so enraged on seeing compliments paid to her in the new papers that he overturned a table at which they were eating breakfast and offered her other indignities to her mental disturbance. The case was presented on the first day of

SUES FOR BREACH OF PROMISE, Niece, Asks \$100,000 From Mr. Fahrney. CHICAGO, Jan. 6.-Miss Etta Thomas, who

says she is a sleee of Gen. Wheeler, began suit against William H. Fahrney, a West Side society man to-day in the Superior Court for \$100,000 damages for alleged breach of promise to marry. Miss Thomas is a prepossessing brunette, 22 years old. Mr. Fahrney is 37 years old. Miss Thomas

Mr. Fahrney is 37 years old. Miss Thomas alleges that for five years he paid attentions to her and a-ked her on several occasions to marry him. On other occasions he intro the dher to his friends as his pro-pective wife. She now asserts that he has told her that his people have compelled him to enter into an agreement to man; yanother young woman who halls from the East. The name of that woman is not men ioned in the papers field.

Miss Thomas, through her attorney, alleges that she and Mr. Fah ney decided that she should take apartments while in the ciy and she, accordingly, took a place at Lincoln and Pork streets. For the greater part of the past two years she has lived in these apartments and has received fahrney there. Often, she asserts, he took her with him when he went on trips to the lakes, a sahore and other resorts asserts, he look her with him when he wenton trips to the lakes, sashore an! other resorts for plensure. When the case comes up love letters from the defen lant will be read in Court, it is said, and tersons will tell of Mr. Fahrney introducing the young woman as his wife. Miss Thomas's father is a coal-mine owner at Peru, iii.

### FISH CAUGHT IN CHICAGO RIVER. The First Since the Great Fire of Thirty

Years Ago. CHICAGO, Jan. 6 .- The first fish caught in the chicago River since the great fire was captured esternay. It was taken from near the Wells Etreet Bridge by John Andries of 2050 Diversey Bou'evard. It was a catfish. Good fishing in the river is expected soon as a result of the Drainage Canal's opening.

Most Superb Day Train in the World.

The "Boyal Limitel" leaves New York, South Ferry and to tof Lierty at, daily 3 P. ... arrives Washington 8 P. M. Splendid Duning and Cafe Car

A NEW VANDERBILT ROAD. W. K. VANDERBILL BY THE BRICE LAKE ERIE AND WES KIN STOCK,

President Newman Lake Shore Will Become President Anderbilts Alec An quire Control of B. Four Which Will Not Consolidate With Chesapeake and Ohio. A majority of the capital stock of the Lake Erie and Western Railroad Company has been acquired by W. K. Vanderbilt. Within a day or two about sixty thousand shares of the preferred stock and an equal amount of the common have been transferred to his name. The

stock thus transferred represents the holdings

of the late Senator Calvin S. Brice, who was president of the road, together with other tock that has been picked up in the market since the death of Mr. Brice. It was understood in Wall Street yesterday that representatives of the new Vanderbilt control will at once take places in the Board of Directors, and that hereafter the road will be operated as part of the system of the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern. William H. Newman, President of the Lake Shore company, it is expected, will be elected president of the Lake Erie and Western at a special meeting to be held this week. The arrangements for the sale to Mr. Vanderbilt of the Brice stock, as well as the arrangements for securing other blocks of the stock, are understood to have been made by Frederick W. Whitridge, of the law firm of Cary & Whitridge,

who is chairman of the board of the Lake Erie and Western, as well as its counsel, and who represented Mr. Vanderbilt in the matter. Mr. Vanderbilt came to the conclusion some time ago that the Lake Frie and Western and its prospective extensions would be of great value to the Lake Shore, certain franchi-es for extensions into Pennsylvania, which were secured by the late Benator Brice being of especial importance. The Lake Erie and Western property includes the following main lines of road: Sandusky. Ohio, to Peoria, Ill., 417.57 miles: In-

dusky. Ohio, to Peoria, Ill., 417.57 miles: Indianapolis, Ind., to Michigan City, Ind., 160.65 miles; Fort Wayne, Ind., to Connersville, Ind., 105.22 miles. In addition there is the Minster branch, St. Mary's, Ohio, to Minster, Ohio, 10 miles, and the Rushville branch. New Castle, Ind., to Rushville, Ind., 24.13 miles, together with 7.43 miles of trackage, making a total of old lines of 725 miles, of which the company owns 710.61 miles. The company has outstanding 118,400 shares of common stock and an equal amount of preferred stock, and has issue i \$7.250.000 of first mortgage bonds and \$3.025,000 of second mortgage bonds.

It also developed yesterday that an absolute majority of the stock of the Cleveland, Cincinnati, Chicago and St. Leuis Raifroad, more popularly known as the "life Four" road, is now held by the Vanderbilts. This has not been the case until recently, although the road has been known as a Vanderbilt bine for some years. It is now expected to become an integral part of the New York Central system. It was stated yesterday on good authority that in

years. It is now expected to be come an integral part of the New York Central system. It was stated yesterday on good authority that in time certain changes will be effected by which a closer physical union at least with the New York Central will be brought about.

The same authority stated that there will be no consolidation of the Big Four and the Chesapeake and Ohio railroads as has been rumored. While such a project may have once been unfer consideration by the interests controlling the two properties, its abandonment has become necessary on account of the change in relations between the New York Central and the Pennsylvania railroads, which developed last summer. The Big Four property is now owned by the Vanderbilt interests, while the buying of the stock of the Chesapeake and Ohio Company for some time past has been for the account of a syndicate with which W. K. Vanderbilt and Pennsylvania Railroad interests are equally connected. The Chesapeake and Ohio, it is understood, will be operated as an independent road, but its Chesapeake and On'o, it is understood, will be operated as an independent road, but its ownership will be held in the joint interest of the New York Central and Pennsylvania railroads. By this plan there will be a further step taken in the maintenance of rate harmony in

taken in the maintenance of the Norfolk and the South, President of the Norfolk and Henry Fink, President of the Norfolk and Mentry Fink, Fresident of the Noriols and Western Railway, who is now visiting this city, said yesterday that traffic conditions have never been more satisfactory than they are now. The only occasions that have approached the present state of affairs was the period just subsequent to the passage of the Interstate Commerce law and the period immediately following the creation of the Joint Traffic Association. In the opinion of Mr. Fink as long as the conditions of general prosperity last there will be no trouble about maintaining rates, the ralroads having all the business they can take care of without having to offer demoralizing inducements to obtain more.

Wall Street heard yesterday that W. K. Vanderbilt had arranged to take a European trip that would result in his absence from this country for several months. It was stated that he will sail some time within the next few weeks and that his departure was likely to be followed by definite announcements relative to the various railroad combinations with which his name has been associated.

# SLATE PURCHASE JUST PAID FOR.

Debt Contracted in Texas in 1860 Settled by Cash Payment Yesterday. Dallas, Tex., Jan. 6.-Lawyer Joseph M. Dickson of Dallas and Lawyer Henry M. McDonald of Paris, Tex., closed up a peculiar legal transaction to-day. A client of Mr. McDonald held a note for \$750 against a client McDonald held a note for \$700 against a client of Mr. Dickson. Mr. McDonald came to Pallas to-day and cave the note to Mr. Dickson for \$750. The note was given in 1880 to secure payment for a negro slave sold to the maker of the note. The war between the States interrupted the settlement of the business affairs connected with the sale of the slave. This is probably the last slave that will be paid for in the State of Texas, if not in the Union.

### MRS, BOOTH'S HOME OPENED.

Men Getting It Ready for the Reception of

Ex-Convicts Next Week. Despite the protests of neighbors, Mrs. Ballington Booth's home for ex-convicts in Flushing is already an established fact. Yesterday the house was opened by three They were under the direction of a foreman, who was designated as captain, and were sent ahead to get the home, in residness for the contemplated, work. Until alterations are made the building will probably accommodate not more than forty inmates, and it is said that forty discharged convicts will be received there next week.

### Four Girls Burned to Death.

MINNEAPOLIS, Jan. 6.- Four girls of the seven children of Mr. and Mrs Michael Kerrich of Pierz, fifteen miles east of Little Falls, were burned to death last night. The children had gone to bed and as the parents, who were had gone to detail as the parents, who were both quite sick, were retiring for the night, they not led that the top of the kitchen was on fire. They tried to rescue the children from their peril, but the flames spread so rapid y that their effo ts were o' no avail. One child, a g riof seventeen, while wandering around in the smoke fell through the stairway and was saved. sa ved.

NEW HAVEN, Jan. 6,-Former Councilman Edward Gifford of this city was before the police court to-day on the charge of stealing a gold watch and a small amount of cash from a woman who lives in the house with Gifford's family. He said to day: "It was polities that runned me. I never drank until I went into the Common Council. Then I got on the Committee of Railroads and Br dges, and the wine suppers given by contractors who wanted favors were too much for me. The pace was too swift."

### Wants to Wed and Keep Her Office.

TOPERA. Kan., Jan. 6.-Miss Emma Lindley, Galena, has written to Attorney-General Goddard to help her out of trouble. She is a notary public, She writes: "I am about to get married, but I don't want to give up my office. Can't you help me?" The Attoiney-General has written her that he will get her a new commission without cost. He tells her to "Goahead and get married."

The Hot Springs of Arkansas. Owned and controlled by U. S. Government. Kle-gant Hotels Arlin ton and Eastman Golf. Address L. T. Hay. Manager, for booklet.—Ade. Poland! Poland! Poland! Poland! Recommended by eminent physicians for purity.

FIRE AMIO TENEMENIS. Four Alarms for a Blaze in East Fifty-

Ninth Street This Morning. Pol'ceman Winter of the East Fifty-first street station saw fire coming out of the windows of the third door of the seven-story brick building at 3.8, 340 and 342 East Fiftyninth street at 1 o'clock this morning The building is occupied by F. Levy & Co., manufacturers of cigars and Franklin M. Wise. a manufacturer of aluminum. When the firemen arrived the fire had spread so that a second alarm was turned in and this was quickly followed by a third.

At 1:30 o'clock this morning it looked as if the entire building was doomed, and the firemen directed their attention to saving the flat libuses on either side of the building.

So far as known there was nobody in the building when the fire started.

A few minutes later a fourth alarm was sent in. The firemen a mitted that for the time being, at least, the fire had got beyond their con rol. The four-story flat house at 344 East Fifty-ninth street soon caught fire, and the brown-stone front buildings on Fitth-eighth street, that are in the rear of the factory building, were also smouldering.

#### FRENCH CLAIM ON SANTO DOMINGO. Paris Paper Says a Cruiser Should Be Sent to Enforce It

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN. Paris, Jan. 6 .- The Journal des Débats says that the most scrupulous upholder of the Monroe doctrine cannot object to the despatch of a French cruiser to Santo Domingo. France's rights, the paper says, are undeniable, and she will uphold them with the moderation compatible with the defence of her interests.

The French Consul at Santo Domingo has demanded the payment of certain claims against the Dominican Government, which amount to about 280,000 francs. The Dominican Government offered to settle the claims in three fortnightly installments. The Consultance of the accept this proposition and gave the authorities three days in which to settle, Despatches to THE SUN stated that the necessary amount had been more than subscribed by the neople and that the women of Santo Domingo had even offered their jewsls to help pay the indebtedness. It seems, however, that there has been some hitch in the arrangements. some hitch in the arrangements.

### CLERGYMAN ASKED TO RESIGN.

The Rev. Percy J. Robottom of Lancaster, Pa., Requested to Give Up His Charge. LANCASTER, Pa., Jan. 6.—There was surprise here to-day when it became known that the vestry of St. James's Episcopal Church, the most fashionable in the city, had asked for the most fashionable in the city, had asked for the resignation of their rector, the Rev. Percy J. Robottom. He attended the meeting of the body and was requested to withdraw. A resolution calling for his resignation was adopted and he was officially notified of the fact. A trolley car conductor recently separated from his wife, and rumors connecting the names of several citizens of Lancaster with the case, have been common. Mr. Robottom denied the truth of the stories so far as he was concerned, but it was decided that his usefulness was at an end. He came here ten years ago from Jersey City, N. J., where he had a charge, and previous to that he was engaged in newspaper work in New York.

### MURDERED AT THE JAIL GATE.

Girl Sandbagged in Toronto and Dies With out Giving a Clue to Her Assailant. TORONTO, Ont., Jan. 6.-Miss Rachael Ferguson, 2d years old, employed in a restaurant. was walking past the jail along a rather lonely street last evening when she was sandbagged and murdered by a man who made his escape.

Miss Ferguson's screams attracted the attention of another woman, who ran for he'p. On arriving at the jail they found Miss Ferguson lying behind the gate unconscious. She had been struck on the left side of the head with a sandbag, which made a bad bruke was bleeding where she had struck the ground in falling or in being dragged on her face on the failing or lip being dragged on her face on the frozen earth. She never regained consciousness and died early this morning.

Her watch was found in her pocket and her friends say she did not earry a purse. No motive is known for the crime. It is said that several other women had been attacked in the same vigitirs.

## MRS. JANE BURBY INJURED.

the Seventeenth Street Curve.

make a call and boarded a crowded Broadway may have lied at the inquest, he told the truth make a call and boarded a crowded broadway cable car.

Before she could push her way inside, the car shot around the Seventeenth street curve. Mrs. Burby was thrown off the car and she landed on her back on the pavement. She received a severe scalp wound. An ambulance was called and she was removed to the New York Hospital. It was said there last night that Mrs. Burly's injuries might be more serious than the first examination showed. She has had a severe fit of retching and the doctors attending her said she might be injured internally.

Mrs. Burby has not played this season. She played the last three seasons in May Irwin's companies. She is 25 years old. Her husband died recently.

# \$25.000 FROM ANDREW CARNEGIE.

Enables the Mechanics' Institute to Its New Quarters. At the annual meeting of the Mechanics' Institute held in the new quarters at 18-24 West Forty-fourth street last Wednesday evening Secretary Richard T. Davies announced that the refitting of the building, which was formerly the Berkeley School, had been made possible by a gift of \$25,000 from Andrew Carnegie, who is a member of the institute, Mr. Carnegie made the ofter of the gift last October, with the understanding that it should be kept a secret until the formal opening of the building. The money, which was handed over on Dec. 9, has been laid out in general fitting and furnish ng. and in equipping the assembly and office rooms and the school rooms in architecture, drawing, modelling and o har arts and sciences. Mr. Carnegie recently gave \$300,000 to the Cooper Union School. The Mechanics' Institute's free reading room for the public will be opened to-morrow. Secretary Richard T. Davies announced that

#### the public will be opened to-morrow. WESTERN UNION IN A CLASH

Ransas State Officials Not Satisfied With the Company's Annual Statement. Topeka, Kan., Jan. 6.-The Western Union Telegraph Company is in a controversy with the Secretary of State and the State Charter the Secretary of State and the State Charter Board owing to the refusal of the company to comply with the provisions of the Eush Corporation law, requiring an annual statement of the financial condition of the company at the close of the business of the year. The company recently filed a statement which was not sariafactory to the board. It was rejected and a supplemental statement was filed. This, too, was rejected.

Was rejected.
The law specified that the company must consent to lexal process being served upon it through the Secretary of State. To this provision the company excepts, and declines to conform. The penalty is dislarment from standing in the courts, which denotes standing in the courts, which deprives the company of the right to sue and also to be

### BANK CARRIFR SHOT. W. B. Eliston, the Trap Shooter, Wounds

Mortally His Brother-in-Law, E. Sinclair. RUSSELLTILLE, Ky., Jan. 6,-On account of alleged ill treatment of his wife, Edward Sinlair, cashier of the Russellville Deposit Bank, clair, cashier of the Russellville Deposit Bank, was shot five times and wounded mortally last night by he brother-in-law, W. B. Elliston, the well-known trap shooter. The affray occurred at Keysburg in the southern part of Logan county. Sinclair and Elliston were in Russellville yesterday and lett in the afternoon for Keysburg. Elliston, who resides at Belle Meade, the famous stock farm near Nashville, reached home to-day and announced his willingness to surrender to the Kentucky authorities whenever they came for him.

### Short Line South. Atlantic Coast Line via Washin ton and Richmond. few Route to Georgia. Quickest to southern Re-orts. Apply 220 Broadway, New York.—440.

Cercle Français de l'Harmonie Ball.

WIFE FORGIVES MORRISON.

JOINS WITH AUTHORITIES IN OVER-LOOKING BIGAMY,

Affectionate Meeting Between the Two Yesterday-Police Reluctant to Review the Death of Morrison's Second Wife. Whom He Shot, He Says, Accidentally -The Dead Woman's Sister Coming From Middletown, Where Morrison Was Known as Wood, to Charge Him With Murder - Morrison Goes Into Hiding.

A little more than a week ago Alfred Morrison, tutor in French to wealthy families of Mount Vernon, shot his wife in their bed-room in their home at Mount Vernon. Morrison said that he had shot her in a dream of burglars, or when he was only half in his senses just after weking from a dream. The woman before she died, as she did within a few hours, begged the authorities not to prosecute her husband, as the shooting had been an accident. A little girl who was, so Morrison testified, their child, testified that her father and mother always loved one another, and that her mother had told her that her father had killed her by mistake. Morrison was exonerated by the Coroner.

Yesterday was published the discovery that he had another wife than the one whom he had shot, and that he was married to her eighteen years ago, although he had sworn at the inquest that the woman who was dead was the only woman he had ever married. It was further learned that the giri was not their child but one that they had adopted. The wife whom he had left lived in this city. He had married her under the assumed name of Frederick Gordon, and had been sending her \$2 a week to keep her quiet. She did not know of his second marriage, although she knew he was living in Mount Vernon under the name of Morrison for reasons she could not understand. Yesterday this woman went to Mount Vernon and despite the protests of her mother, took her fickle husband to her heart and said she would never leave him again.

Some of the people of Mount Vernon believe that in the light of these later discoveries, the circumstances of the death of Morrison's Mount Vernon wife should be looked into more closely. The authorities of that city show no disposition to act in the case. They will be further urged to do so, a despatch from the Middletown correspondent of THE SUN said last night, by a woman there named Ellenberger who says that Mrs. Alida Morrison the woman who was killed on Dec. 30 was her only sister and that when Morrison was married to her in Middletown tweive years ago he adopted the name of Wood for the purposes of the marriage ceremony. Mrs. Ellenberger says that her last letters from her sister showed that Mrs. Morrison was somewhat pinched by her husband in money matters and was not as happy with him a the people of Mount Vernon believed.

Lillian Archer Gardon, whom Morrison married in Jersey City eighteen years ago and from whom he has been separated for nearly all that time, allowing her two dollars a week for her support, went to Mount Vernon yesterday at his request. As soon as she saw him she rushed into his arms. and between his professions of unbroken affection and her own reproaches for his fickelness they were reconciled. She stayed with him at Mount Vernon last night, saying that she never meant to leave her Alfred again as long as they both should live. Chief of Police Foley had announced before her arrival that he would initiate no prosecution of Morrison for bigamy except upon Mrs. Gorin the matter, there is little likelihood that Morrison will be called upon to answer to the law either for the bigamy which he acknowledges or for the perjuries which are apparent in his testimony before the Coroner concerning his wife's death at his hands a week ago. There was a good deal of talk in Mount Vernon yesterday to the effect that Morrison ought now be held criminally responsible for Mrs. Jane Burby, the actress, met with a his wife's death. This talk did not come from

painful accident yesterday afternoon. She any of the city officials. They are all of them left her lodging at 214 East Sixteenth street to convinced that no matter how much Morrison when he said that he killed his Mount Vernon wife unintentionally.

When the Mount Vernon wife died on New Year's morning Morrison, who was in a state of

excitement that seemed to border on acute insanity, was taken in charge by a wealthy aunt, Mrs. Amelia Cahen, who came up from her home in New York to care for him. She is his mother's sister, and there is every reason to believe that she knew of her nethew's relations with Lillian Archer Gordon and Alida Morrison, his second wife. Mrs. Cahen is of French descent. She arranged for the removal of Morrison and his adopted child to the boarding house of Mrs. Aillen in another part of the town. He was at Mrs. Allien's house when the first

reporter reached him yesterday morning with THE SUN'S account of his New York motherin-'aw's accusation of bigamy against him. In Mrs. Cahen's presence, the reporter handed him a copy of the newspaper containing the interview with Mrs. Archer. Before he had read it half through, Morrison fell on his knees before his visitor and in the wildest words asked what was to be done to him. "You admit the truth of what Mrs. Arches says, then?" he was asked. "You admit that you lived under the name of Gordon in New

"I admit nothing," screamed Morrison; "it is all a lie." "Is your name Morrison." asked the reporter, "or is it Gordon?" "On, it is neither," cried Morrison: "I don't know what my name is. Call it Osborne."

York and under the name of Morrison here?"

name has never been Osborne. You took the name of Gordon, but your real name is Mor-"Yes, yes." moaned Morrison, "that is the

"Alfred," said Mrs. Cahan, "you know your

truth. I don't know what I am saying. For-In his utter abasement he began kissing the reporter's shoes. He was restrained from that and finally he became more coherent.

"I never thought that I was doing wrong." he said. "In marrying my dear dead wife un-til I saw that awful word in the headline of that newspaper saving I was a bigamist. Then I realized what I had done and my knees gave way under me. God knows I never meant to wrong my dear dead wife. She is the only woman I ever really loved. I want the publication of this horrible thing kept out of all the newspapers for the sake of her. I can't bear to think that there should be any blot upon her memory." He was told that it was quite impossible for

him to prevent everybody from knowing what his past had been, and that his dead wife would not receive the censure of the public but that he would get all the blame. He was told that the discovery of his bigamy had a used many persons to believe that the death of his Mount Vernon wife was not the result of an accident. He began to moan and cry again.

of an accident. He began to moan and cry again.
"They cannot believe that," he said. "God knows I am innocent of that. Enough of what I have done is wicked and terrible, but not that; not that. They have no right to accuse me of teat."

Morrison told other reporters who came to h m during the morning that he did not love the woman in New York at all, and that he had left her soon after they were matried because he had found out things that enanged his love

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